

In 1865, thirty members of Bank Street Baptist Church began praying in a tent abandoned by Union soldiers after the culmination of the Civil War. These meetings were later moved to the homes of the various members. On April 15, 1868, these individuals received letters of dismissal from Bank Street Baptist and left to begin a new church led by Reverend Samuel S. Jones.

The new church was initially called Cedar Grove Baptist, receiving its name from the cedar trees that lined the road to the church. An empty plantation building served as the first church building and services were held in a large upper room. The congregation soon outgrew the plantation building and moved to a new worship hall on the corner of Pine and Walnut Streets. Reverend Richard Wright was elected the new pastor of Cedar Grove Baptist. Reverend Wright began fund-raising for a new hall of worship, but passed away prior to completion. Reverend Madison Lewis served as pastor for nearly 10 years and was leading the church at the completion of First Baptist Church Montaland. Unfortunately, the Montaland church building was devastated by a fire in 1908 and a new church could not be constructed until 1910. After the fire, the congregation met at the local Masonic Hall.

In 1910, the new church building, named First Baptist Church, Berkley, opened its doors to the Norfolk community. Throughout the church's entire history, First Baptist Church, Berkley has had a rich legacy of outreach. During the Great Depression, under the leadership of Reverend John Carter Diamond, the church helped feed the community by opening soup kitchens and bread lines. The church created a nursery and hired unemployed mothers to supplement their family income. With a focus on education, the nursery was converted into a church kindergarten.

In 1963, Reverend William Tyree, Jr. began his pastorship with a philosophy of educating the congregation. Under his leadership, several classes were created to benefit all members of the church. Through his strong belief in education, Reverend Tyree formed the Tri-Committee, which focused on the church's outreach into the community through social and civic engagement. Reverend Tyree recognized the need for a new church facility and led the congregation in an effort to build the current location of First Baptist Church, Berkley at Berkley Avenue and Culpepper Street, which opened on June 22, 1986. Reverend Tyree served the church for more than 32 years before his passing on December 23, 1994. His son, William D. Tyree, III, began his pastorship in May of 1996 and continues to serve the church today.

Over the last 150 years, 13 pastors have served the church's congregation—Rev. Samuel S. Jones, Rev. Richard Wright, Rev. Madison Lewis, Rev. H.L. Barco, Rev. Sutton Griggs, Rev. J.H. Randolph, Rev. W.R. Slade, Rev. Lafayette Sharpe, Rev. A.O. Bello, Rev. John Carter Diamond, Rev. Noel C. Taylor, Rev. William D. Tyree, Jr., and Rev. William D. Tyree, III.

Mr. Speaker, as First Baptist Church, Berkley of Norfolk, Virginia celebrates this historic milestone, the congregation can rejoice in 150 years of successful discipleship and public service in the Hampton Roads community. I would like to congratulate the 13th pastor of First Baptist Church, Berkley, Reverend William D. Tyree, III, and all of the members of

the church's congregation on the occasion of its 150th Anniversary. I wish them many more years of fellowship and dedicated service to the community.

JEFFERSON MIDDLE SCHOOL ARCHERY TEAM

HON. RODNEY DAVIS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 15, 2015

Mr. RODNEY DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Jefferson Middle School Archery Team from Champaign, Illinois for the continued and outstanding success of their program.

At the state competition this past March, the Jefferson Archery Team brought home the state championship title in the middle school division for the third straight year.

The Jefferson Team had five individual medalists at the state competition as Breanna Velez took 3rd place and Maddy Brown took 4th place in the female division, while Luke Miller took 1st place, Spencer Weis took 2nd place, and Ivan Chu took 4th place in the male division.

I would like to congratulate these five outstanding archers on their success and the entire Jefferson Archery Team on their 3rd consecutive state title.

I am truly proud to represent this group of exceptional student-athletes, and I wish them the best of luck as they represent the entire state of Illinois in competition for the national title in May:

Spencer Weis, Breanna Velez, Chikako Barnes, Maddy Brown, Jacob Rosenbaum, Cayla Risinger, Joel Everett, Lucas Brown, Luke Miller, Clayton Knerim, Isaac Stevens, Olivia Geis, Noga Adar, Ben Hannauer, Nathan Yahnke, Tristan Summers, Trevor Boland, Benjamin Kirkland, Anthony Erlinger, Lauryn Henry, Nicole Olivier, Jacob Rice, Gage Miller, Henry Hornbrook, and Ivan Chu.

RECOGNIZING CHILD HOME AND COMMUNITY'S 35TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. MICHAEL G. FITZPATRICK

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 15, 2015

Mr. FITZPATRICK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of 35 years of commitment to young mothers of Bucks and Montgomery counties by Child Home and Community.

Working with local schools and hospitals, Child Home and Community provides assistance and educational opportunities for young parents from all backgrounds to be better, healthier parents.

CHC's programs—including free childbirth classes, support groups, career counseling and other advocacy services—help address real needs in our communities and bring about tangible benefits for participants, including becoming “more likely to stay in school and graduate, find employment with good benefits, prepare their children for school and become productive members of the community.”

As a supporter of this worthwhile organization and their more than three decades of

dedication, it is an honor to mark their 35th anniversary and celebrate with them and the thousands of young families they have supported.

Congratulations and continued success in Bucks and Montgomery counties to everyone at Child Home and Community.

RECOGNIZING THE 2015 TOWN OF VIENNA POLICE DEPARTMENT VALOR AWARD RECIPIENTS PRESENTED BY THE FAIRFAX COUNTY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 15, 2015

Mr. CONNOLLY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize an outstanding group of men and women in Northern Virginia. These individuals have demonstrated superior dedication to public safety and have been awarded the prestigious Valor Award by the Fairfax County Chamber of Commerce.

This is the 37th Annual Valor Awards sponsored by the Fairfax County Chamber of Commerce. This event honors the remarkable heroism and bravery in the line of duty exemplified by our public safety officers. Our public safety and law enforcement personnel put their lives on the line every day to keep our families and neighborhoods safe. This year's ceremony will recognize 93 individuals in a variety of categories including: the Lifesaving Certificate, the Certificate of Valor, and the Bronze, Silver, or Gold Medal of Valor.

Three members of the Town of Vienna Police Department are being honored this year for their exceptional service.

It is with great pride that I submit the names of the following Valor Award recipients:

Certificate of Valor Recipients:

Police Officer John Digan

Police Officer Marcos Herrera

Master Police Officer Tim Seitz

Mr. Speaker, I congratulate the 2015 Valor Award Recipients, and thank each of the men and women who serve in the Town of Vienna Police Department. Their efforts, made on behalf of the citizens of our community, are selfless acts of heroism and truly merit our highest praise. I ask my colleagues to join me in applauding this group of remarkable citizens.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. BILLY LONG

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 15, 2015

Mr. LONG. Mr. Speaker, on the dates of February 24 through March 3 of this year, I was away from the Capitol tending to a family medical situation that required my presence. Due to these unforeseen circumstances, I was unable to vote on any legislative measures on the floor during this time.

On Motion to Suspend the Rules and Pass HR 212, Roll Call Vote #84, had I been present I would have voted yes.

On Motion to Suspend the Rules and Pass HR 734, Roll Call Vote #85, had I been present I would have voted yes.

On Ordering the Previous Question, Roll Call Vote #86, had I been present I would have voted yes.

On Agreeing to the Resolution H RES 121, Roll Call Vote #87, had I been present I would have voted yes.

On Motion to Suspend the Rules and Pass HR 1020, Roll Call Vote #88, had I been present I would have voted yes.

On Motion to Recommit with Instructions HR 529, Roll Call Vote #89, had I been present I would have voted no.

On Passage of HR 529, to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to improve 529 plans, Roll Call Vote #90, had I been present I would have voted yes.

On Consideration of the Resolution H RES 125, Roll Call Vote #91, had I been present I would have voted yes.

On Ordering the Previous Question, Roll Call Vote #92, had I been present I would have voted yes.

On Agreeing to the Resolution H RES 125, Roll Call Vote #93, had I been present I would have voted yes.

On Approving the Journal, Roll Call Vote #94, had I been present I would have voted yes.

On the amendment of Mr. KENNEDY of Massachusetts, Amendment No. 67 to HR 5, Roll Call Vote #95, had I been present I would have voted no.

On the amendment of Mr. GROTHMAN of Wisconsin, Amendment No. 128 to HR 5, Roll Call Vote #96, had I been present I would have voted no.

On the amendment of Mr. CASTRO of Texas, Amendment No. 43 to HR 5, Roll Call Vote #97, had I been present I would have voted no.

On the amendment of Mr. QUIGLEY of Illinois, Amendment No. 96 to HR 5, Roll Call Vote #98, had I been present I would have voted no.

On the amendment of Ms. MOORE of Wisconsin, Amendment No. 40 to HR 5, Roll Call Vote #99, had I been present I would have voted no.

On Ordering the Previous Question, Roll Call Vote #100, had I been present I would have voted yes.

On Agreeing to the Resolution H RES 129, Roll Call Vote #101, had I been present I would have voted yes.

On Motion to Request a Conference on HR 240, Roll Call Vote #102, had I been present I would have voted yes.

On Approving the Journal, Roll Call Vote #103, had I been present I would have voted yes.

On Passage of HJ RES 35, Making further continuing appropriations for fiscal year 2015, Roll Call Vote #104, had I been present I would have voted yes.

On Motion to Instruct Conferees on HR 240, Roll Call Vote #105, had I been present I would have voted no.

On Motion to Suspend the Rules and Concur in the Senate Amendment to HR 33, Roll Call Vote #106, had I been present I would have voted yes.

On Motion to Suspend the Rules and Pass HR 294, Roll Call Vote #107, had I been present I would have voted yes.

On Motion to Table the Senate Amendment to HR 240, Roll Call Vote #108, had I been present I would have voted no.

On Motion to Recede and Concur in the Senate Amendment to HR 240, Making appro-

priations for the Department of Homeland Security for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2015, Roll Call Vote #109, had I been present I would have voted no.

On the amendment of Mr. MCCLINTOCK of California, Amendment No. 6 to HR 749, had I been present I would have voted yes.

On Motion to Recommit with Instructions HR 749, Roll Call Vote #111, had I been present I would have voted no.

On Passage of HR 749, To reauthorize Federal support for passenger rail programs, Roll Call Vote #112, had I been present I would have voted no.

OUR UNCONSCIONABLE NATIONAL DEBT

HON. MIKE COFFMAN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 15, 2015

Mr. COFFMAN. Mr. Speaker, on January 20, 2009, the day President Obama took office, the national debt was \$10,626,877,048,913.08.

Today, it is \$18,152,013,569,439.51. We've added \$7,525,136,520,526.43 to our debt in 6 years. This is over \$7.5 trillion in debt our nation, our economy, and our children could have avoided with a balanced budget amendment.

CONGRATULATING MR. DAVID ROSELEIP ON HIS DECADES OF SERVICE TO AND RETIREMENT FROM THE WASHINGTON AGFORESTRY LEADERSHIP PROGRAM

HON. CATHY McMORRIS RODGERS

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 15, 2015

Mrs. McMORRIS RODGERS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the career and countless achievements of Mr. David Roseleip. A giant in Washington State, Dave spent his childhood in St. Ignatius, Montana before matriculating to Montana State University. Raised on a dairy and diversified crop farm with his twin brother, Dave's upbringing inspired him to pursue and attain a degree in Agriculture Science and Economics. After graduation, Dave moved to Spokane, Washington where he began his long and impactful career at Farm Credit Banks. While continuing to serve farmers at his day job, Dave enrolled in the first class of the Washington Agriculture and Forestry Education Foundation's Leadership Program which provides essential training to individuals engaged in farming, forestry, and fishing in Washington State.

Four years after graduating from the program, Dave became president of AgForestry. Under his stewardship, AgForestry continued its mission, providing outstanding services and resources to its students. In fact, during his tenure, Dave has overseen the recruitment and selection of Leadership Classes 7 through 37 and has proudly watched nearly 1,000 graduates of the program go on to successful careers in agriculture and forestry. Working tirelessly with the Washington State Legisla-

ture, along with various government departments and national organizations, Dave has ensured that the program's trips to Olympia and Washington, D.C. have been filled with engaging and enlightening classes and experiences. One of his greatest accomplishments as president of AgForestry was the coordination of "International Seminars" to nearly 45 different countries, giving students a greater understanding of global issues and the importance of American agriculture in the world.

Of course, Dave's incredible legacy extends beyond AgForestry. Dave joined forces with leadership from three other organizations in co-founding the "International Association of Programs for Agricultural Leadership." In addition, Dave has served on the boards of Farming and the Environment, the Pacific Northwest Farm Forum, the Washington Biodiversity Council, and the Washington Agriculture Council. After more than 30 years of service to AgForestry, Dave will be retiring in June. His impacts will be long-felt in Washington agricultural and forestry circles, and his work is something that we can all take pride in. I wish both Dave and his loving wife, Jan, a long and happy retirement.

HONORING GWENDOLYN NERO LOPER

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 15, 2015

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Mrs. Gwendolyn Nero Loper, the daughter of the late Malinda and Willis Nero, who graduated from Greenwood High School in 1946. She attended Tougaloo College from 1948 to 1952 graduating cum laude with a degree in sociology. She received a Master of Social Work degree from Howard University in 1955. She became one of the first Black social workers in Mississippi with a graduate social work degree.

This honoree's work experience as a social worker includes seven years with the Department of Human Services (the Welfare Department) and in 1966 she became the first Black social worker, employed with the Veterans Administration. After working thirty years at the V. A. Medical Center, she retired in 1995. She then worked four years as Field Instructor at Jackson State University in the School of Social Work's Master of Social Work Program.

Mrs. Loper's dedication to the field of social work earned several "firsts" to be recognized. These include: the first black woman appointed to the Mississippi Board of Mental Health, to represent the social work profession by Governor William Waller in 1974; she was reappointed by Governors William Winter and Bill Allain. She served in this position until 1994. On February 17, 1995, the Mississippi State Board of Mental Health named the Administration Building at the Hudspeeth Regional Center in Whitfield, Mississippi, the Gwendolyn Nero Loper Administration Building. This, too, was the first time a building had been named in honor of a social worker in the State of Mississippi.

Among Mrs. Loper's other community involvements are the following: charter member of the Jackson National Council of Negro Women; past president of Delta Sigma Theta